

Attorney's Docket No.: 06816-073003

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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enter

1-2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A method of forming a membrane electrode assembly, comprising:

obtaining a solid-electrolyte membrane;

first, treating the membrane using a ~~conditioning~~ pre-treating agent which reduces wrinkling of the membrane when catalyst is applied;

after said treating, applying a catalyst ink which includes platinum directly onto a first surface of said treated membrane;

second applying a second catalyst ink which includes platinum directly onto a second surface of said treated membrane;

first placing a first support substrate on said first surface of said membrane;

second placing a second support substrate on said second surface of said membrane; and

bonding said first support substrate, said membrane, and said second substrate forming a membrane electrode assembly.